

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 777

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James Esker Terry, Jr.,
of Oneida.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of James Esker Terry, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, known as "Junior," Mr. Terry was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Junior Terry was born on April 22, 1951, in Detroit, Michigan, to Gertrude Marcum Terry and James Esker "Eck" Terry; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong farmer, Junior Terry discovered his passion for farming as a young boy growing up on his grandparents' farm; over the years, he learned many skills dealing with livestock, equipment, and the land itself, eventually parlaying them into a career as a successful farmer; and

WHEREAS, valued as an expert in his vocation, Mr. Terry served on several advisory boards during his career, including the Farm Bureau Board, Scott-Morgan Farmer's Cooperative Board, and the Scott Water and Conservation Board, and was named Farmer of the Year in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Junior Terry was loved by all who knew him, as he extended kindness and compassion to everyone he met; he often assisted other friends and families in maintaining their fields and gardens and caring for their livestock; and

WHEREAS, a driven, hardworking individual and first-class businessman, Mr. Terry also owned his own company, Terry Insulation, and drove a school bus for twenty-two years; and

WHEREAS, Junior Terry was an active and devout member of Pine Creek United Baptist Church for fifty-three years, serving faithfully in many capacities, including as a deacon and treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Terry was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his beloved wife and best friend of forty-four years, Katherine "Kat" Terry; sons, Jared Terry and Justin Terry; and grandchildren, Hailey Kendall Terry, Katherine Terry, Ezra Terry, Hughston Terry, and Deegun Terry; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his mother; siblings, Danny Ray "DT" Terry, Linda Malone, Debbie Anderson, and Lisa Carson; sister-in-law, Donna Stephens; brother-in-law Bobby Blevins; special friends, Donnie Burke and Jerry Marcum; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his father, Junior Terry was preceded in death by his father- and mother-in-law, Bill and Lorene Carson Blevins, and his brother-in-law Billy Joe Blevins; and

WHEREAS, Junior Terry leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of James Esker Terry, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Terry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.